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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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19 October

SECURITY INFORMATION

Subject: Reactivation of the BNF (Bulgarian National Front).

Date Received: 24 September 1953

Source: 4-C-2

Sub-Source: Kiril EVDOKINGOF, BNF Secretary

Evaluation: C-3

In a conversation with source on 24 September 1953 in MUNICH, sub-source reported on a number of questions which are at present of concern to the BNF (Bulgarian National Front) leadership.

1. BNF President Christo STATEFF (ROMA) was requested by Bulgarian Queen-in-exile JOACHINA (MADRID) to come to MADRID to discuss with her the following questions: *Queen & government*

- political activation of the royal family;
- creation of a regents' council for the King-in-exile, SIMEON II, who is minor of age.

During the past two years the BNF attempted in vain to induce the court to engage in political activities. The latest step of the queen comes as a surprise even for the BNF leadership. Ex-Minister President Dr. Georg KOESSEIWANOFF (SWITZERLAND), Bishop ANDREI (USA), head of the Bulgarian Church-in-exile, and Bulgarian businessman TSCZOMAKOFF (at present in BRAZIL) are provided as possible candidates for a regents' council. Circles of the BNF do not agree with KOESSEIWANOFF's possible candidacy since they would prefer seeing him in the position of a President of an All-Bulgarian National Committee which he cannot hold as a regent. Besides STATEFF, Dr. Stefan POPOFF (SWITZERLAND), head of the political section of BNF and former educator of the young king, also went to MADRID. BNF circles expect that the queen's political activation will result in an increase in prestige which may essentially facilitate the struggle against Dr. G.M.DIMITROFF, President of the Bulgarian National Committee.

2. STATEFF and Dr. POPOFF are scheduled to leave MADRID for PARIS in late September 1953 to continue talks with the Association of "Free Bulgarians" and other groups. The purpose of these conferences is to materialize the project for creation of an "All-Bulgarian Representation-in-Exile". The latter will unite those elements of the Bulgarian Emigration who are opposed to Dr. DIMITROFF.

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ided dates back some time and, presumably, will finally be materialized in the near future. A number of prominent Bulgarian personalities-in-exile are said to have given their written approval.

3. While in PARIS, STATEFF will act as mediator in a controversy between Stefan GRUEV (Association of Free Bulgarians) and Dr. Vassilko TENEV, head of an Agrarian Party group in exile and irreconcilable enemy of Dr. G.M. DIMITROFF. Creation of the "All-Bulgarian Representation-in-Exile" depends on the settlement of this controversy, unimportant as such, since TENEV is the only agrarian willing to cooperate and, in his capacity of agrarian leader, can fight Dr. DIMITROFF as the sole agrarian leader in exile. One can neither renounce cooperation on the part of GRUEV since he allegedly enjoys the queen's confidence and has excellent connections with US authorities.

4. Sub-source also reported that the BNF's financial status has suddenly improved considerably. 10,000 DM have been received from two US citizens (names unknown) of Bulgarian descent. It is planned to publish the BNF paper "National Bulgarian" monthly in Bulgarian, German and English. Also, considerable funds have been secured for future activities which may facilitate international trips of BNF functionaries.

Source Field Comment: The veracity of statements as to financial sources must be doubted. It is presumed that either ABN (Anti-Bolshevist Bloc of Nations) or the circle around Prof. MENDE, DUESSELDORF, furnish the funds. US citizens have probably been "chosen" as financiers to make the matter acceptable. However, there is no evidence justifying the doubts which are based on mere presumptions.

5. The question as to how far US authorities have dropped Dr. G.M. DIMITROFF is of the greatest concern to BNF. BNF circles are willing to cooperate with DIMITROFF should the Americans insist on his person. On the other hand, plans are to adopt a wait and see attitude; should it be sure that DIMITROFF will be dropped. This question is one of the reasons for STATEFF's stay in PARIS coinciding with that of DIMITROFF.

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600-1. EGM A-9119

Subject: Bulgarian National Front considers Transfer of its Headquarters from MUNICH to WASHINGTON D.C.

Date Received: 15 September 1953

Source: 4-C-2

Sub-Source: Kiril EVDOKIMOV, Secretary of the Bulgarian National Front

Evaluation: C-3

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1. In a conversation with 4-C-2 on 15 September 1953 in MUNICH, Kiril EVDOKIMOV stated that Dr. Mathias JEIKOFF, NEW YORK, member of the BNF (Bulgarian National Front) board, reported the following in a letter to Dr. Dimitar WALTSCHEFF, MUNICH:

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- a. JEIKOFF applied to the East-European section, Bulgarian desk, of the State Department in WASHINGTON D.C. and discussed with the competent official the question of forming a BNF branch in the USA.
- b. JEIKOFF was told that only a transfer of the BNF headquarters from MUNICH to the USA could come into consideration since American laws do not permit the existence of branches of organizations-in-exile in the US.
- c. JEIKOFF supposedly believed the Bulgarian desk official to have displayed a one-sided attitude, with anti-BNF and pro-BNC (Bulgarian National Committee) tendencies.
- d. JEIKOFF requests the transfer of the BNF headquarters to the USA in order to facilitate cooperation with US authorities on the highest political level.

2. BNF head WALTSCHEFF announced that he would postpone his comment until his trip to BONN and DUESSELDORF (office of Prof. Gerhard von MENDE), where he will hear the opinion of German circles. He believes, however, that the prospects of remaining in GERMANY are more favorable in the face of the German political situation after the past Bundestag elections.

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